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LATAM PRESS ON ANGOLA, CUBA AND THE SOVIET UNION ///

ANNCR: LATIN AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS REFLECT SHARP CONCERN OVER CUBA'S MASSIVE INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA. HERE IS WITH A BRIEF SUMMARY OF SOME EDITORIALS:

NARR: IN BOLIVIA, SCENE SOME YEARS AGO OF THE ILL-FATED CUBAN GUERRILLA INVASION HEADED BY THE LATE CHE GUEVARA, THE LA PAZ NEWSPAPER " HOY" COMMENTS:

VOICE: " THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO A POLICY OF DETENTE WHICH THE WORLD REGARDED WITH RELIEF AS DISPELLING THE PHANTOM OF WAR. AND THAT POLICY OF BOTH SUPER-POWERS WAS DEVELOPING NORMALLY, ALTHOUGH NOT WITHOUT SOME SETBACKS, UNTIL THE COMING OF INDEPENDENCE TO ANGOLA AND THE SUBSEQUENT PROVED PRESENCE OF CUBAN COMBATANTS WHOSE PRESENCE-- ACCORDING TO STATEMENTS FROM PRISONERS-- INDICATES A FLAGRANT FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN THE AFFAIRS OF A JUST-BORN INDEPENDENT NATION."

NARR: AND JOSE ANGEL CONCHELLO OF EL UNIVERSAL-ONE OF MEXICO CITY'S MOST IMPORTANT DAILIES-SAYS THAT FIDEL CASTRO HAD TO SEND CUBAN SOLDIERS TO ANGOLA TO PAY FOR THE SOVIET UNION'S ECONOMIC AID TO CUBA. HE ADDS:

VOICE: " THE RUSSIANS ARE ON THE HORNS OF A GRAVE STRATEGIC DILEMMA. ON THE ONE HAND, THEY BELIEVE THEY HAVE TO TAKE OVER ANGOLA AS ANOTHER PIECE ON THE WORLD CHESS- BOARD AND ON THE OTHER THEY FEEL THEY HAVE TO CONSERVE AN IMAGE OF APPARENT NEUTRALITY. ON A RECENT DAY IN THE KREMLIN, SOMEONE HAD THE BRIGHT IDEA --' LET'S SEND THE CUBANS, " AND CASTRO, THROUGH CONFIDENTIAL CHANNELS GOT THE IMPLACABLE MESSAGE... THERE WILL BE NO LACK OF MARXISTS WHO PROCLAIM THAT CASTRO IS FIGHTING AGAINST YANKEE IMPERIALISM

ALTHOUGH HE ALREADY WAS EXPLORING WAYS TO BREAK ITS EXPORT EMBARGO. AND I ASK MYSELF: WHY ARE THE CUBANS DOING THIS AND NOT THE AFRICANS? WHY DON'T THE RUSSIANS WHO LIMIT THEMSELVES TO LEADING THE CUBANS TO THE SLAUGHTER-HOUSE AND THEN RETURN FOR MORE AND MORE OF THEM ONLY TO LEAVE THEM (IN ANGOLA), DO IT THEMSELVES? WHY HAS CASTRO SAID NOTHING TO EXPLAIN TO THE CUBAN PEOPLE THE NEED FOR THAT HOLOCAUST OF CUBAN YOUTHS ON THE ALTAR OF RUSSIAN IMPERIALISM HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF THEM... THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS... THERE ARE ALREADY EIGHT THOUSAND YOUNG CUBANS FIGHTING UNDER ALIEN BANNERS, USING FOREIGN WEAPONS IN A STRANGE LAND, IN A WAR THAT NOT EVEN THE AFRICANS WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN. ONLY THE DEVIL CHARGES SO HIGH A PRICE FOR THE FAVORS HE GRANTS."

NARR: COLUMNIST JOSE RAUL FLOREZ OF LA PRENSA GRAFICA OF EL SALVADOR HAS THIS TO SAY ABOUT THE ANGOLAN SITUATION AND FOREIGN INTERVENTION:

VOICE: " THE FACT OF RUSSIAN INTERVENTION IN THE FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONY IS NOT NEW. WHAT DOES APPEAR TO BE NEW IN THIS CASE IS THE ROLE OF CUBAN MILITARY UNITS WHOSE NUMBERS ARE ESTIMATED AT BETWEEN THREE AND EIGHT THOUSAND MEN, MANY OF WHOM HAVE ALREADY LOST THEIR LIVES AND MANY OTHERS HAVE BEEN TAKEN PRISONER WITHOUT KNOWING WHY THEY ARE FIGHTING, AS THEY THEMSELVES HAVE SAID... THE CANNON FODDER THAT THE LEADERS OF THE PRO-SOVIET FACTION IN ANGOLA NEED IS BEING PROVIDED BY THE TYRANT THAT THE RUSSIANS HAVE AT THEIR BECK AND CALL IN CUBA."

NARR: THE DAILY " EXCELSIOR" OF SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, NOTES THAT HAVANA HAS PROFITED BY THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION AND SUCH SLOGANS AS " HANDS OFF CUBA" AND " FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA." BUT NOW, CASTRO PROCLAIMS HIS RIGHT TO INTERVENE IN ANGOLA AND, BY EXTENSION, ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD WHERE--AS HE PUTS

IT-- " THE SACRED PRINCIPLES OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROLETARIAT REQUIRE IT." AND THE EDITORIAL ADDS:

VOICE: " THE APPLICATION OF THIS PRINCIPLE OF " INTERVENTION-YES' AS IN THE CASE OF ANGOLA, DISRUPTS AND WEAKENS THE WHOLE INTERNATIONAL JURIDICAL SYSTEM AND UNFORTUNATELY LEADS US TO CONCLUDE THAT CUBA IS STILL NOT MATURE ENOUGH TO COEXIST PEACEFULLY WITH FREE NATIONS WHICH RESPECT THE NORMS OF CIVILIZED BEHAVIOR.... IF THE PRINCIPLE OF 'INTERVENTION-YES' WHICH UNDERLIES IMPLICITLY THE FORMULA OF MARXIST-LENINIST INTERNATIONALISM IS EXTENDED, THEN WE WOULD WITNESS THE END OF THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION."

(OPT) NARR: AND IN SAN PEDRO SULA, HONDURAS, THE NEWSPAPER "LA NOTICIA," HAS SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH CUBA. IT SAYS:

VOICE: " NOW WE MUST WEIGH WHETHER THE PREMISE UNDER WHICH NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH HAVANA WAS CORRECT. UNDER THAT PREMISE IT WAS ASSUMED THAT CUBA WOULD NOT INTERVENE IN OTHER COUNTRIES NOR WOULD EXPORT ITS REVOLUTION. THE AERIAL BRIDGE IT HAS EXTENDED BETWEEN HAVANA AND AFRICA... IS AN UNDENIABLE FACT WHICH HAVANA'S GOVERNMENT APPARENTLY WON'T EVEN ATTEMPT TO DENY."

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